

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (previously presented) A bailer, comprising:

a cylindrical main body;

a valve housing with tapered sidewalls secured to a leading end of said cylindrical main body;

said cylindrical main body having a trailing end adapted to be engaged by a means for lowering said bailer into a body of liquid fluid and for raising said bailer from said body of liquid fluid;

an annular bead formed in a leading end of said tapered sidewalls of said valve housing;

a check valve disposed in said valve housing;

a bottom-emptying device having a bottom wall and tapered sidewalls mounted about a periphery of said bottom wall;

said tapered sidewalls of said bottom-emptying device overlying the tapered sidewalls of said valve housing when said valve housing is fully received within said bottom-emptying device;

an annular groove formed in an interior surface of said tapered sidewalls of said bottom-emptying device, said annular groove interlocking with said annular bead when said valve housing is fully received within said bottom-emptying device so that a user may release said bottom-emptying device while waiting for liquid fluid to flow from said bailer;

an aperture formed in said bottom wall;

a downspout depending from said bottom wall, said downspout having a lumen in fluid communication with said aperture;

a peg mounted in upstanding relation to said bottom wall, said peg being positioned adjacent said aperture;

whereby said peg unseats said check valve when said valve housing is fully received within said bottom-emptying device so that liquid fluid within said bailer flows through said downspout when said tapered sidewalls of said leading end are received within the tapered sidewalls of said bottom-emptying device.

2. (previously presented) The bailer of claim 1, further comprising:

said peg having a truncate extent and having utility with said bailer having a check valve positioned at a leading end of said valve housing.

3. (previously presented) The bailer of claim 1, further comprising:

said peg having an elongate extent and having utility with said bailer having a check valve positioned in recessed relation to a leading end of said valve housing.

4. (original) The bailer of claim 1, further comprising:

said downspout having a predetermined diameter adapted to guide liquid into a wide-mouth container.

5. (original) The bailer of claim 1, further comprising:

said downspout having a predetermined diameter adapted to guide liquid into a vial.

6. (original) The bailer of claim 2, further comprising:

said downspout having a predetermined diameter adapted to guide liquid into a wide-mouth container.

7. (original) The bailer of claim 2, further comprising:

said downspout having a predetermined diameter adapted to guide liquid into a vial.

8. (original) The bailer of claim 3, further comprising:

said downspout having a predetermined diameter adapted to guide liquid into a wide-mouth container.

9. (original) The bailer of claim 3, further comprising:

said downspout having a predetermined diameter adapted to guide liquid into a vial.